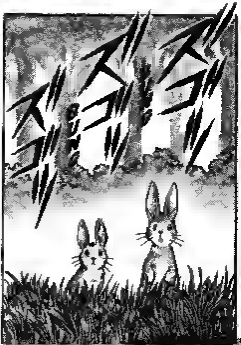
THE BAND OF THE RED HAND

OBSERVING SHI-FUAN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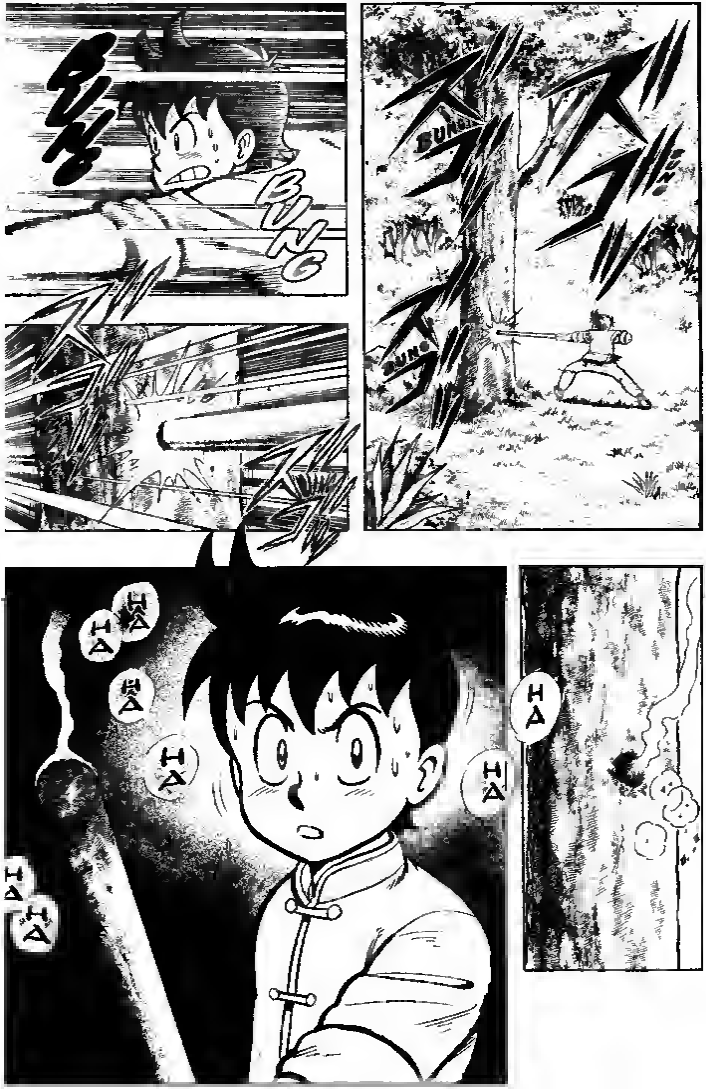
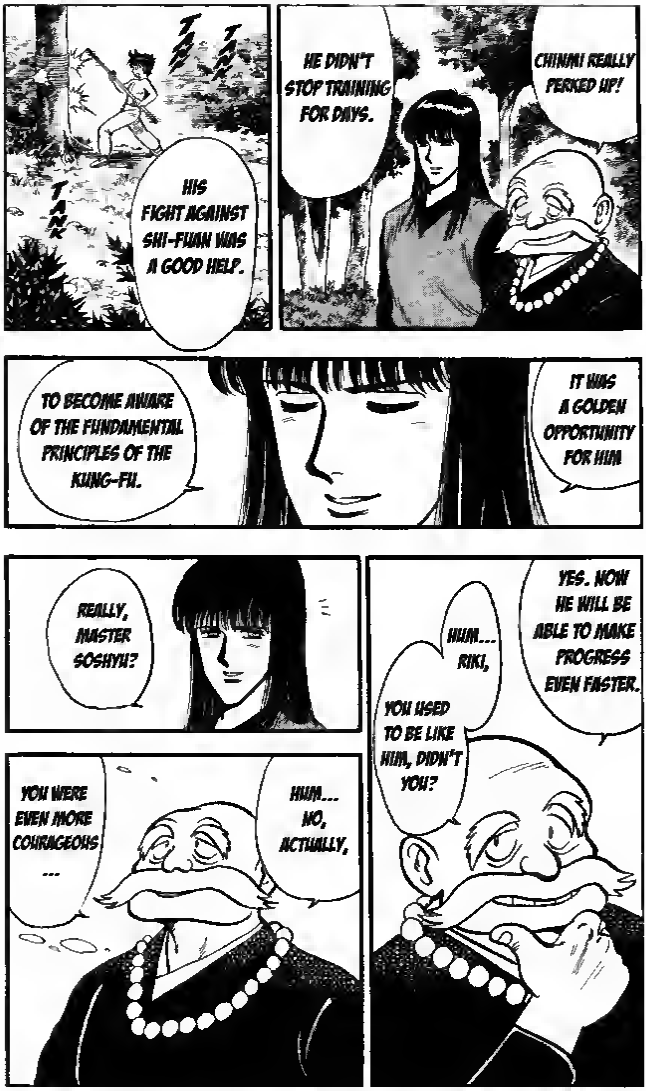

BUNG
BUNG
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

FLOFLOFLOF

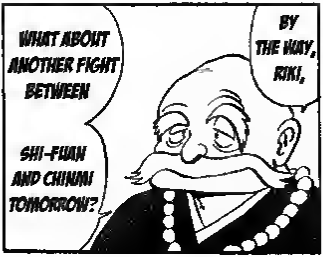
HAH!
WOOPS
TLOPS
THIS WATERFALL HAS SO MUCH FORCE!
SZHAA
BUT THAT'S NOT GOING TO STOP ME!
HAAH!

CHINMI! DON'T GIVE YOURSELF ANY LIMIT!
HAH!!
ONLY IF YOU PERSEVERE CAN YOU MAKE PROGRESS.
DON'T BE SATISFIED WITH BASIC TRAINING!

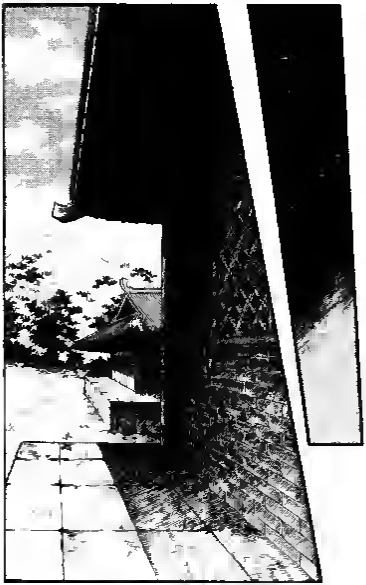
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE STRONGER THAN ME.
NO LOOSENING UP!
COME ON! PUT SOME EFFORT INTO IT!
TFHUN!

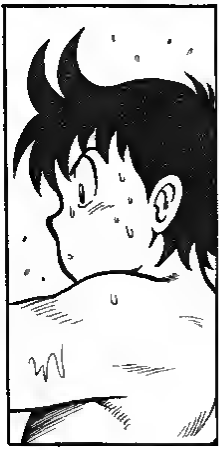

TAN
TAN
TANK
HIS FIGHT AGAINST SHI-FUAN WAS A GOOD HELP.
HE DIDN'T STOP TRAINING FOR DAYS.
CHINMI REALLY PERKED UP!
TO BECOME AWARE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE KUNG-FU.
IT WAS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM
REALLY, MASTER SOSHYU?
YOU WERE EVEN MORE COURAGEOUS ...
HUM... NO, ACTUALLY,
HUM... RIKI, YOU USED TO BE LIKE HIM, DIDN'T YOU?
YES. NOW HE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS EVEN FASTER.

YES, WHY NOT?


BY THE WAY, RIKI,
WHAT ABOUT ANOTHER FIGHT BETWEEN SHI-FUAN AND CHIUNI TOMORROW?

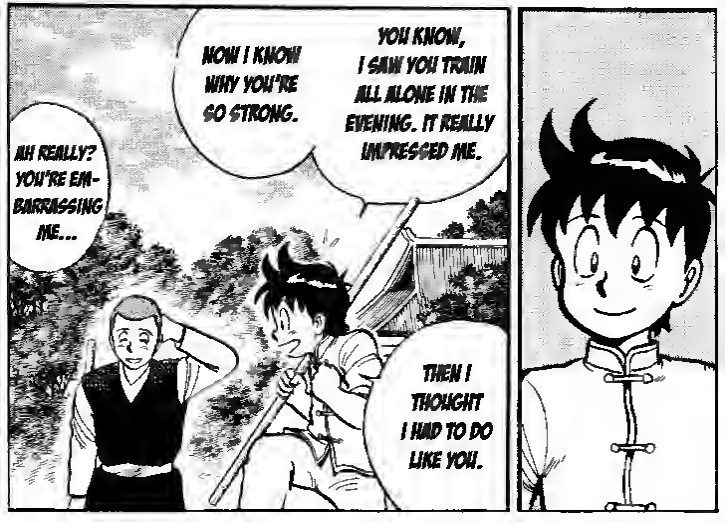
...
...

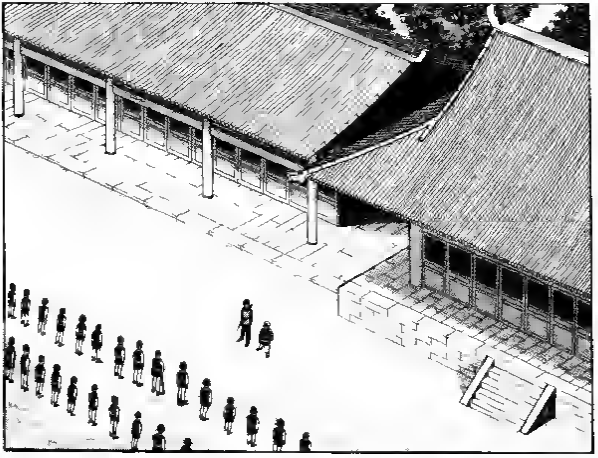




CHIN-MI!
TODAY TOO, I MUST GIVE MY ALL..
WHAT A NICE WEATHER!
H M M F F !
HELLO SHI-FUAN...
HEY!
AH REALLY? ERR... I... ACTUALLY, I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE.
YOU'VE BEEN TRAINING HARD LATELY.
ABOUT OUR FIGHT, THE OTHER TIME.
APO-LO-GIZE? WHY THAT?
YES, THANKS TO YOU SHI-FUAN.
YOU'VE BEEN A GOOD STIMULANT.

BUT I LOST MY TEMPER... AND DESPITE MYSELF... I GOT ANGRY...
I AM DEEPLY SORRY.
I WAS HEAVY-HANDED AGAINST YOU.
OH THAT ?
DON'T WORRY. IT'S NORMAL DURING A FIGHT.
AND IN THE END IT WAS A GOOD THING FOR ME.


NOW I KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO STRONG.
YOU KNOW, I SAW YOU TRAIN ALL ALONE IN THE EVENING. IT REALLY IMPRESSED ME.
AH REALLY? YOU'RE EMBARRASSING ME...
THEN I THOUGHT I HAD TO DO LIKE YOU.



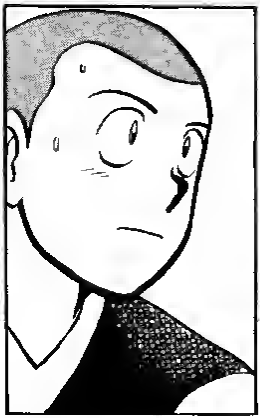
TODAY WE WILL DO A KUMITE

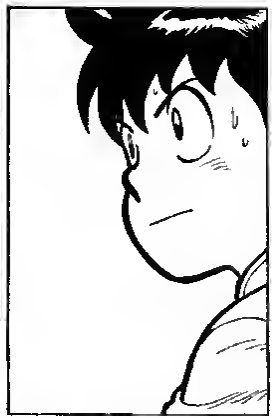
CHINMI, SHI-FUAN, COME FORWARD!

ERR... YES!!
CHINMI DIDN'T STOP TRAINING.
I WONDER WHAT WILL HAPPEN...
A RETURN MATCH? ALREADY?
...

SALUTE!

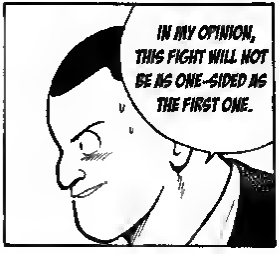
BEGIN!



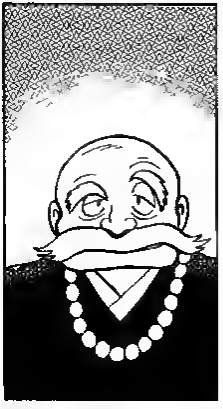


SU?
THIS TIME I WILL NOT BE BEATEN,
NOT LIKE THE LAST TIME!

...
...
...


IN MY OPINION, THIS FIGHT WILL NOT BE AS ONE-SIDED AS THE FIRST ONE.

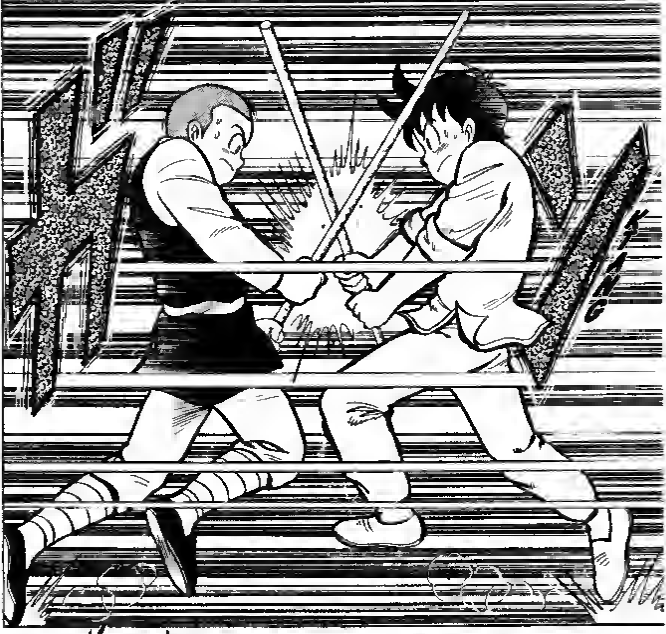
CHINMI LOOKS STRONGER NOW.
THEY'RE BOTH STAYING EN GARDE.
THEY STILL HAVEN'T STARTED...

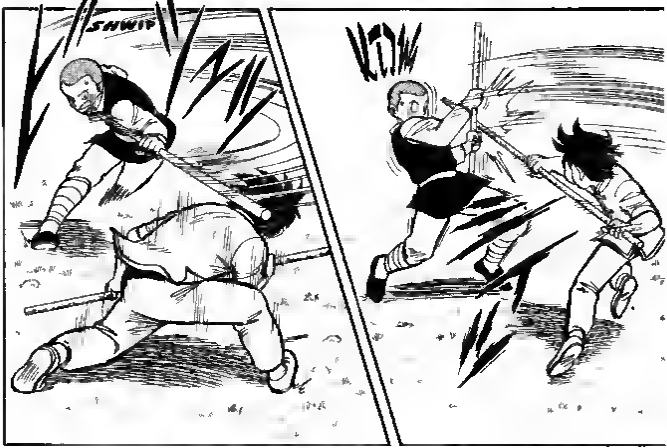


ｼｭﾙｰｽﾋﾟﾝ!!

SHUU
PAT
HUO
ISAP

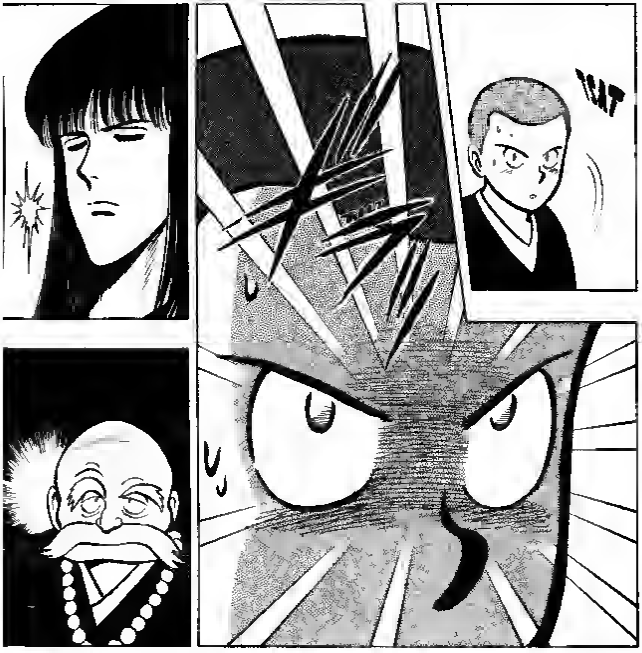
KRKR
KYUNG!
TSA!
HAA
HAA
HOO
HOO

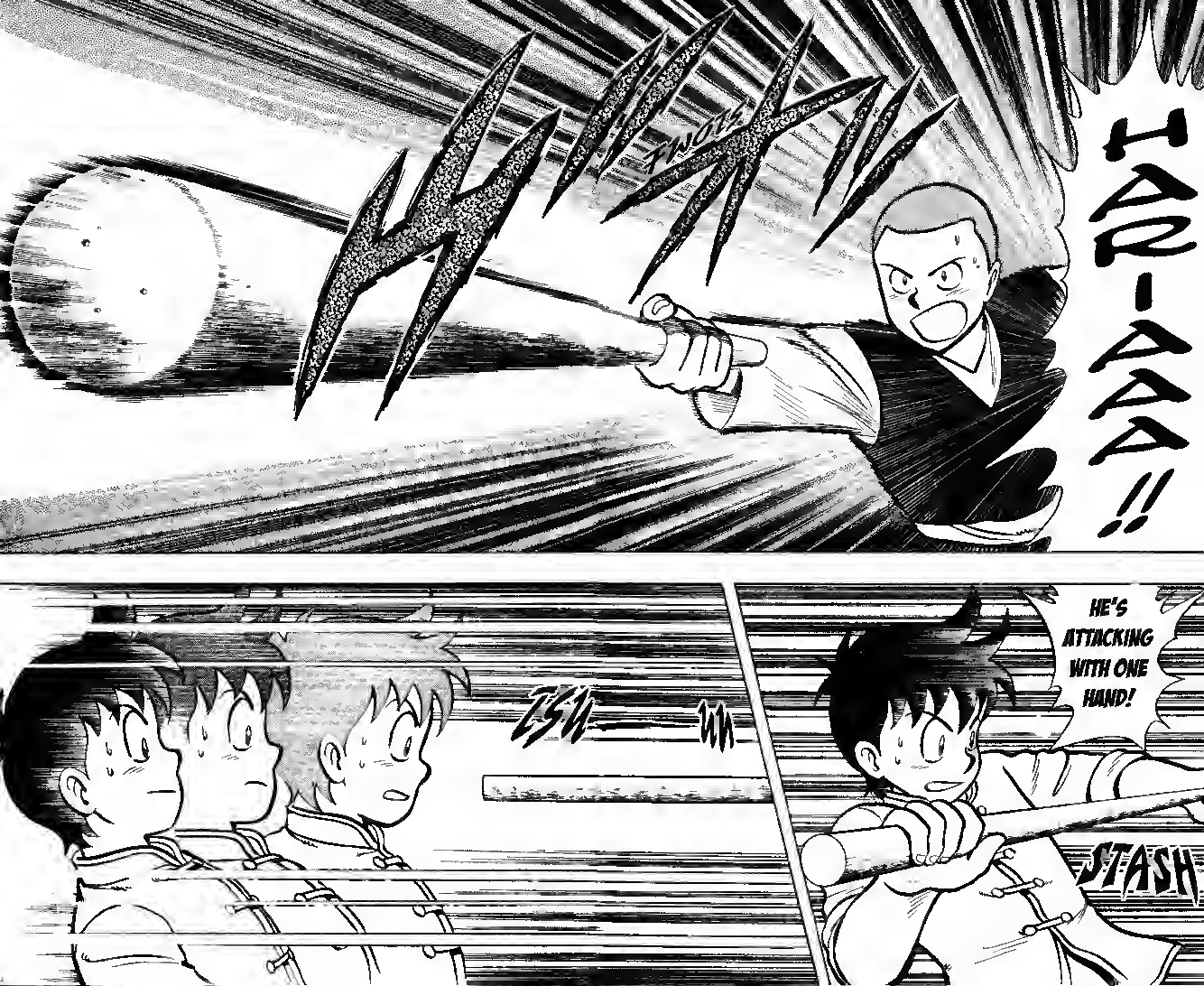



SHWIP
WHOOSH

KTAN
KTAN
KTAN
KTAN
THEY'RE BOTH MOVING VERY WELL!
THEY'RE ON A PAR SO FAR!

HE DEFINITELY PROGRESSED.
NOTHING TO DO WITH THE OTHER DAY.
HYA !!
WAOOO!!
!!


HHAAAA!

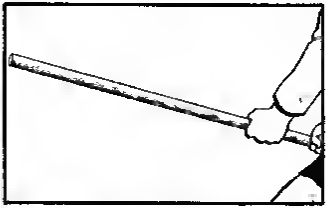

HAR-AAA!!
SWISH
HE'S ATTACKING WITH ONE HAND!
STASH

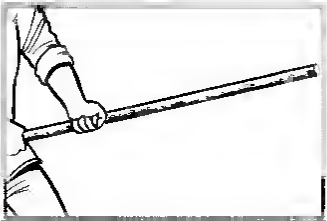
WUIN
!!
KRUM

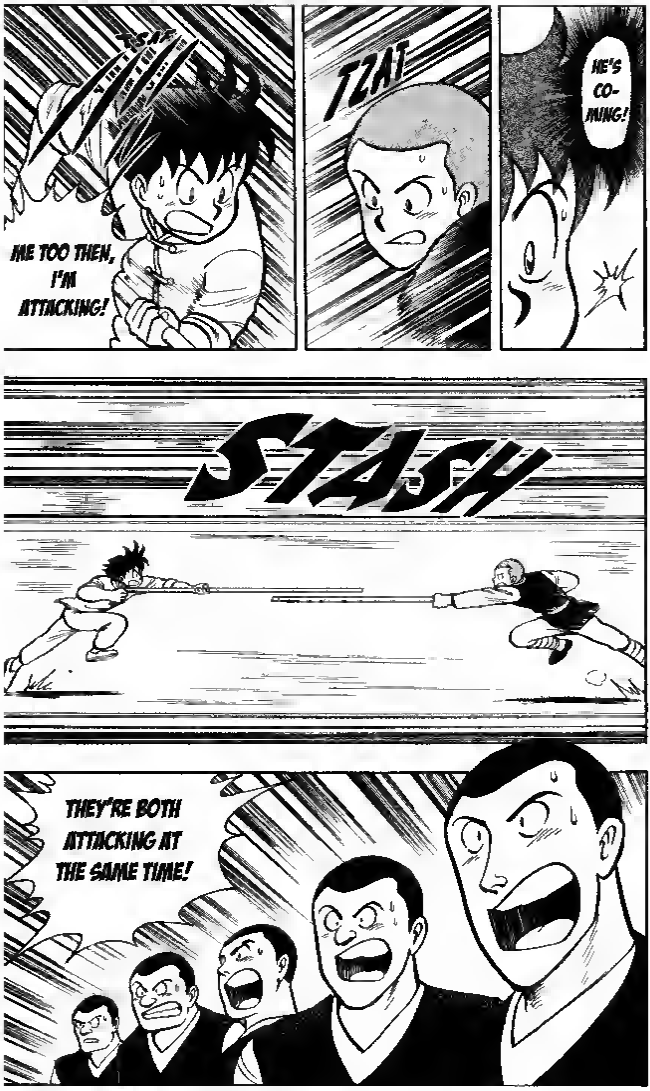
PA
NO WAY?!
...
HOW DID HE DO THAT?
HA HA
HA
HIS STAFF GOT LONGER!
HIS ...
HA HA

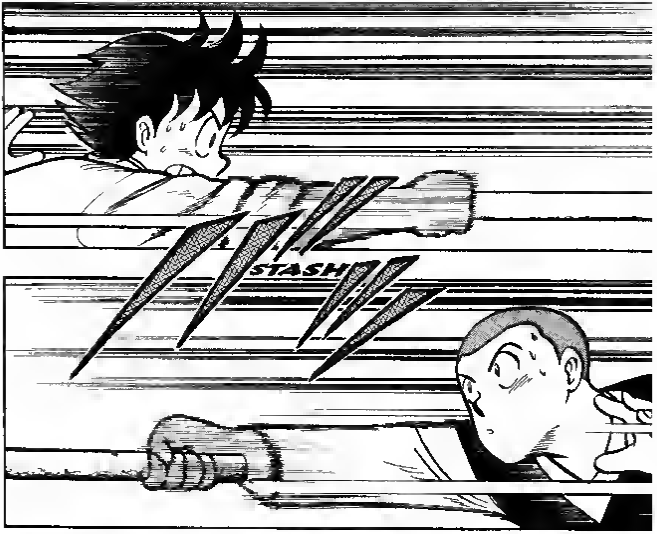
I DON'T SEE HOW IT COULD GET LONGER.
NO... IT'S AN ORDINARY STAFF...

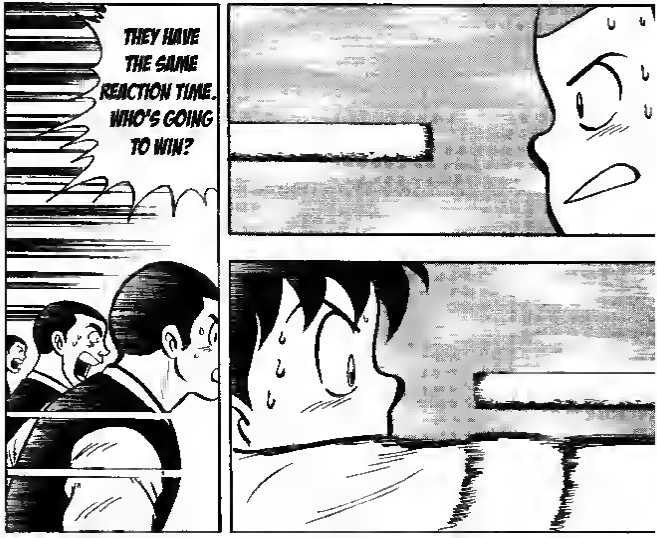
I HAVE ABOUT THE SAME REACH AS SHI-FUAN AND OUR STAVES ARE IDENTICAL...

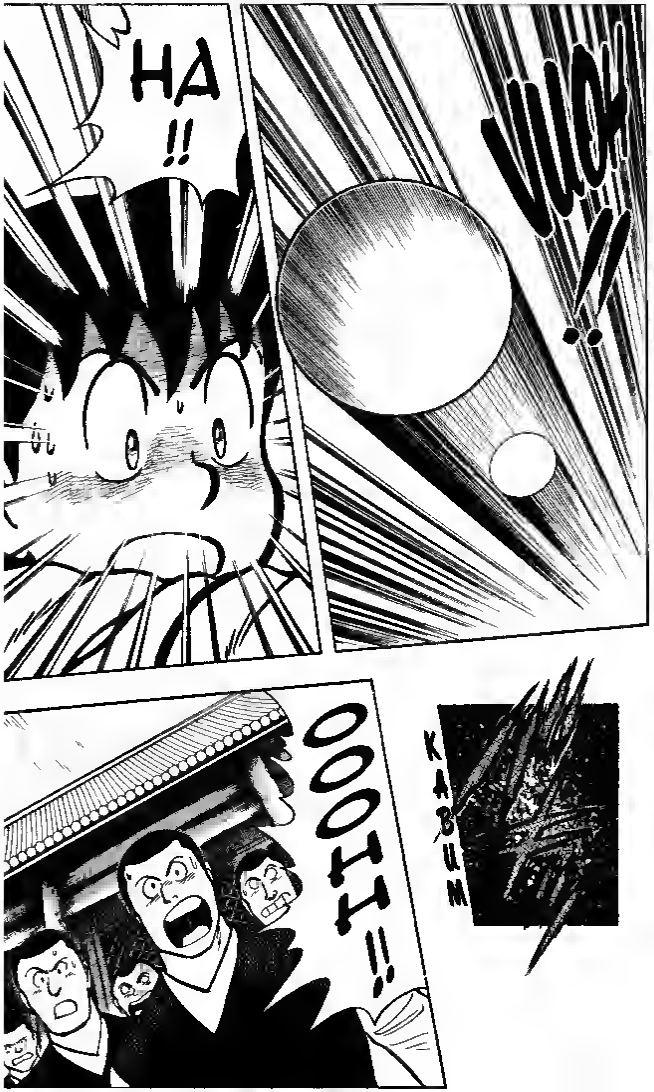


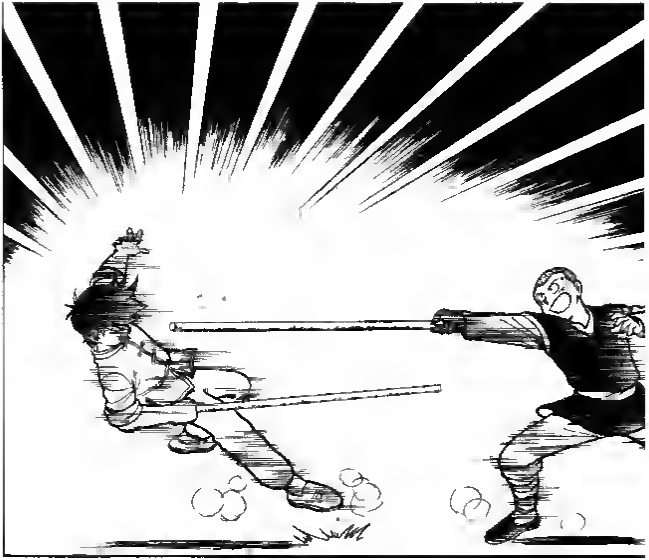



TSAT
ME TOO THEN, I'M ATTACKING!
TZAT
HE'S CO-MING!
STASH
THEY'RE BOTH ATTACKING AT THE SAME TIME!


STASH

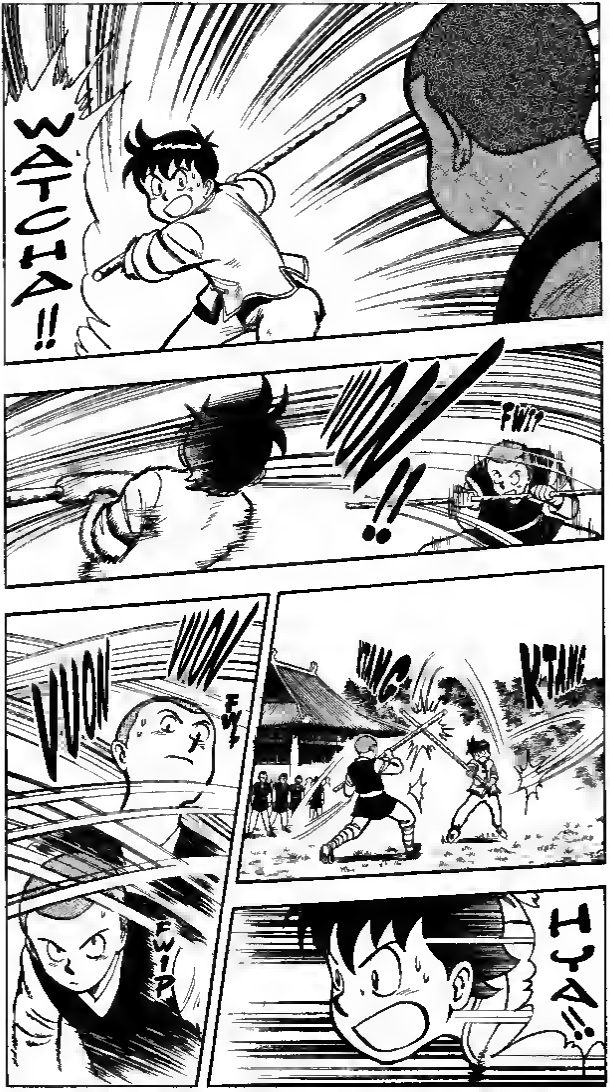

THEY HAVE THE SAME REACTION TIME. WHO'S GOING TO WIN?

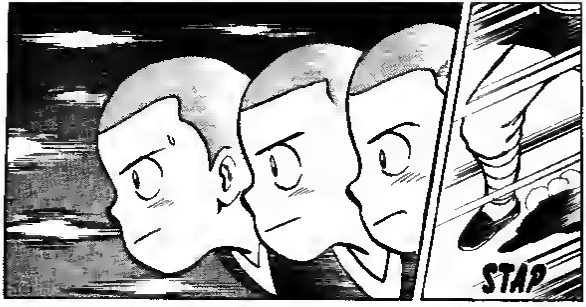

HA
!!
JUO
!!
KABUM
OOOHH!!



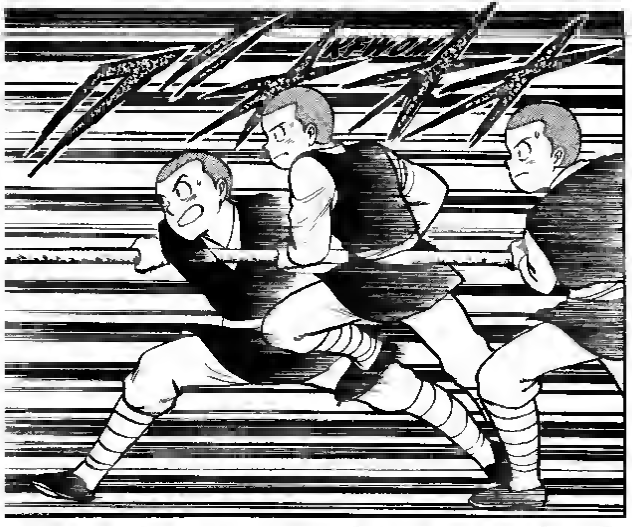
UNBELIEVABLE... WITH THE SAME ATTACK!

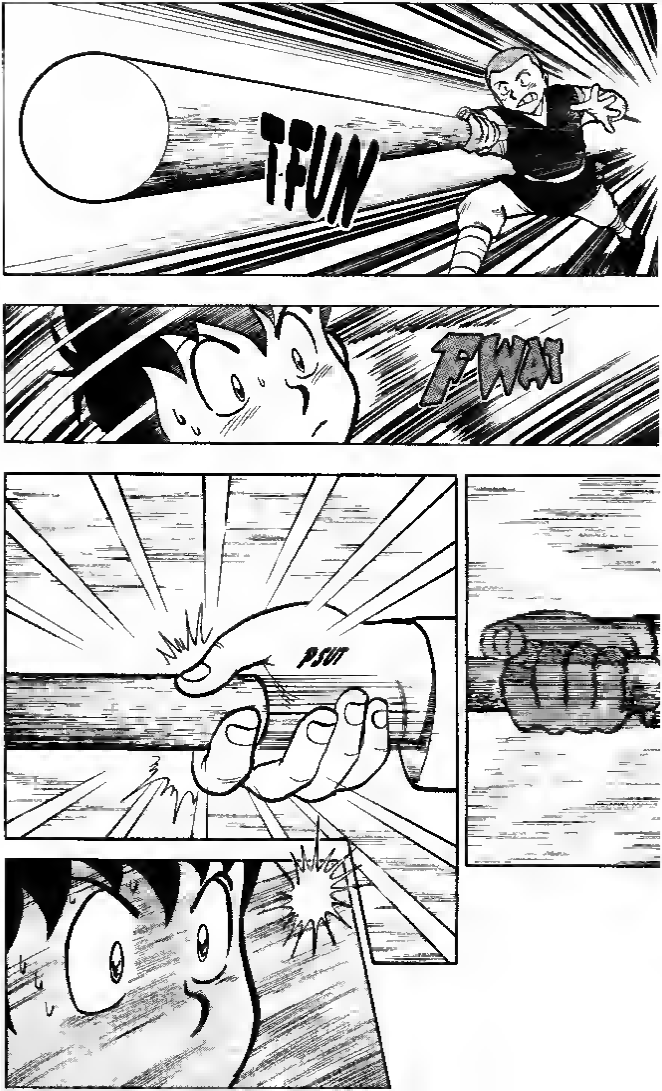
AH...
SPAHAH
BUT... HOW DOES HE DO IT?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, CHINMI?
HA HA
HIS STAFF GOT LONGER SOMEWHERE AROUND HIS WRIST, I'M SURE!
I'M NOT DONE YET!


WATCHA!!
FWIP
!!
VUON
FWIP
DUNG
KTAK
HYA!!


STAP

HE'S GOING TO STRIKE AGAIN!

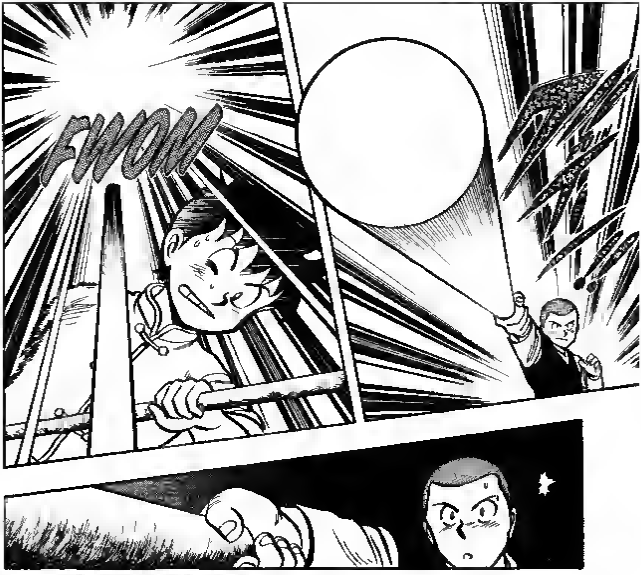

KRAKOOM!

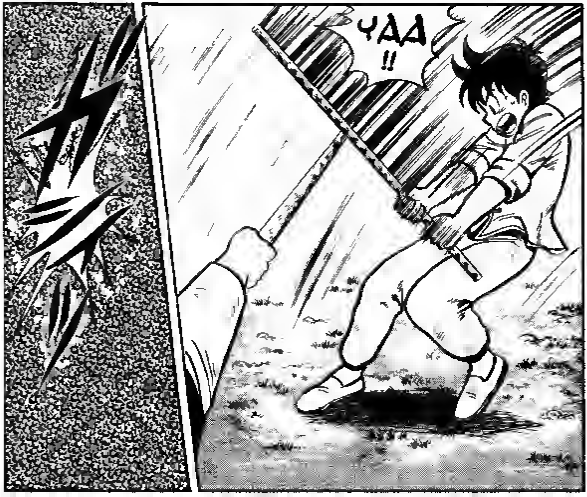

TFUN
TWAI
PSUT

HE'S MAKING THE STAFF SLIDE IN HIS HAND TO THE MAXIMUM!
HE'S HOLDING IT WITH ONLY TWO FINGERS, BETWEEN THE THUMB AND FOREFINGER.

THAT'S WHY IT SEEMED LIKE HIS STAFF WAS GROWING LONGER!
KYAA
HA HA HA
HE CAN ATTACK WHILE HOLDING IT WITH ONLY TWO FINGERS...
SHI-FUAN IS REALLY EXCEPTIONAL!

I MUST BE ABLE TO MAKE IT FALL BY HITTING IT ON THE SIDE!
BUT IF HE'S HOLDING HIS STAFF WITH ONLY TWO FINGERS...
OK ...
?ZAT
STACH
IT WON'T WORK THIS TIME!


FWOM


YAA
!!

RUIN
LUIN
LUIN
LUIN
WHAT?!
IT'S CHINMI WHO
LOST HIS STAFF!

I... THE STAFF FLEW OUT OF MY HANDS!
CLANG
SPIT
IT'S OVER!

WHAT A STRENGTH IN THE FINGERS!
AND MORE AGILE.
SHI-FUAN IS VERY STRONG!
YOU COULD NEVER TELL JUST LOOKING AT HIM.
CLAP CLAP

...
...
He gave me a nice bruise with his staff.
Ow...
If I expected to lose my staff...
The strength he's got in his fingers is impressive.
Shi-Fuan is really strong!

HEY ! IT'S WATER DUTY!
I HAVE TO BUILD UP STRENGTH IN MY FINGERS!
HOH
HOH
HOH
HAH
HAH

YESTERDAY TOO HE WANTED TO DO IT ALONE.
AT LEAST THAT'S SOMETHING LESS FOR US TO DO, BUT...
OH.
CHINMI ASKED US TO LET HIM DO IT ALONE... HE REALLY INSISTED.
THERE'S ENOUGH WATER. NOW, GO CUT SOME WOOD.
YES, ABOUT THAT...
A FEW MORE.
GRAB
HA
HA
HA
HA

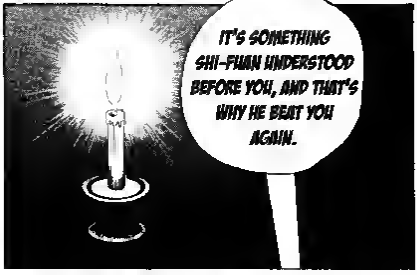
TSHK
GNN GN
HAH?
TSHK
COME ON, IT'S NOT OVER!

SLICE
RAH!
DAMN! I FAILED AGAIN.
I HAVE TO MANAGE TO DO THIS BEFORE TOMORROW MORNING...
BOTHER...
USING ONLY TWO FINGERS.
AH, MASTER RIKI.
CHINMI.

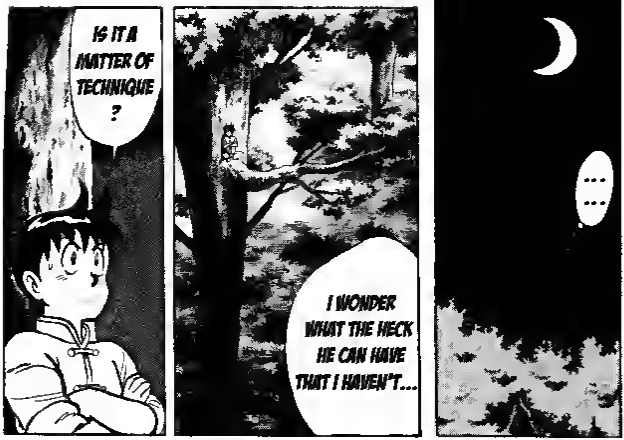
I'M TRYING TO GET UP TO HIS LEVEL.
YES.
LIKE SHI-FUAN.
YOU'RE TRYING TO DEVELOP YOUR FINGERS' STRENGTH, AREN'T YOU?
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SHI-FUAN AND YOU DOESN'T LIE ONLY IN THE FORCE OF YOUR FINGERS.
I COMMEND YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS, CHIANN, HOWEVER
...
...
BUT WHAT IS IT THEN?
EH?

BETWEEN YOU AND SHI-FUAN, THERE IS
A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO KNOW FOR NOW.


IT'S SOMETHING SHI-FUAN UNDERSTOOD BEFORE YOU, AND THAT'S WHY HE BEAT YOU AGAIN.

AND IT'S...?


IS IT A MATTER OF TECHNIQUE ?
I WONDER WHAT THE HECK HE CAN HAVE THAT I HAVEN'T...
...
...

OMMH! HELLO.
HELLO.
OMAH
GOOD MORNING, CHIMM.
GOOD MORNING, SHI-FUAH.
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US...

FLUR
FLUR
IT WASN'T THAT EASY AGAINST YOU.
ERR ...
YOU GOT ME, THE OTHER DAY.
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME LIKE THAT?
WH... WHAT? WHAT IS IT CHINMI?

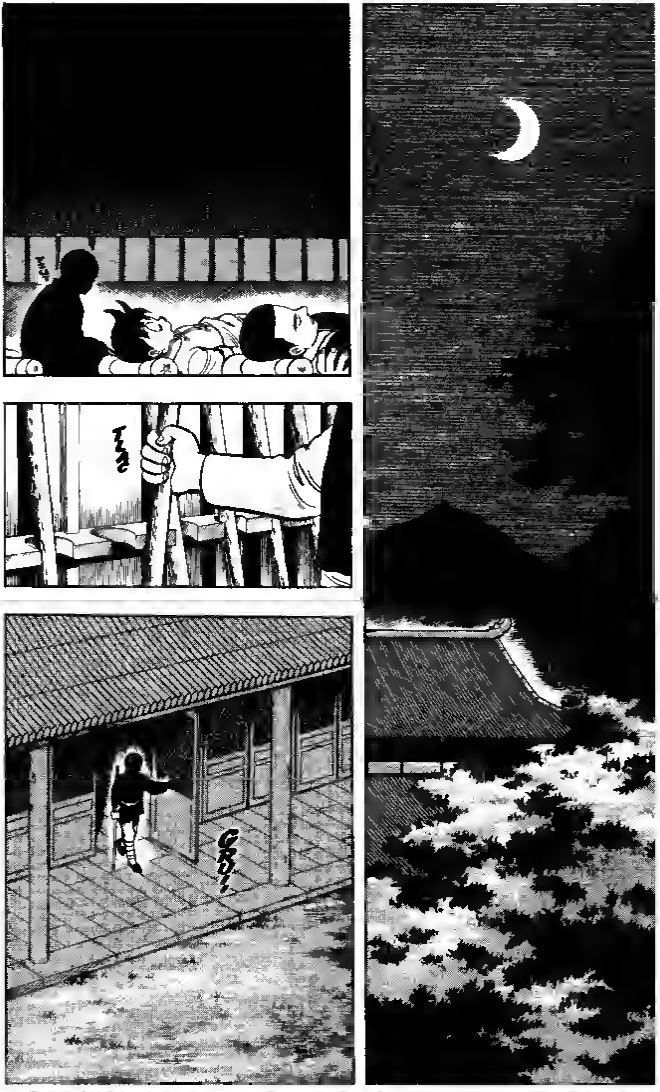
HOH
HOH
HOH
HOH
STAP
STAP
STAP
STAP
YAHA
OH...
NO, NOTHING, REALLY.
...
...
STAP
STAP
STAP
STAP
MM...
STAP
STAP

TODAY I WILL NOT LET HIM OUT OF MY SIGHT.
MUNCH MUNCH
YUM YUM
A FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIM AND ME?
SINCE THIS MORNING, YOU KEEP STARING AT ME.
CHINMI!
...
HE HE HE HE
DO I HAVE SOMETHING ON THE FACE OR WHAT?

EEH?
A GRAIN OF RICE.
YES, YOU HAVE SOMETHING.
BUT WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU LAUGH SO MUCH?
HE HE HE
YES INDEED.
AH!
I FEEL LIKE WE'RE ALMOST THE SAME.
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
I'M CONFUSED ...

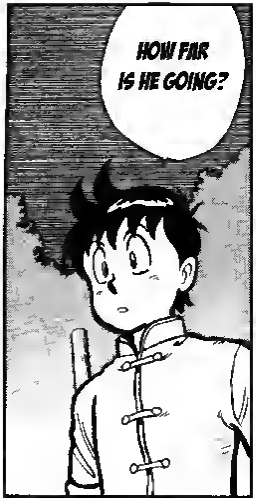
BVUN!!
HAH
HAH
!!
SHYUT
"GLANCE"
I REALLY CANNOT SEE THIS FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US...
STAC
STAN

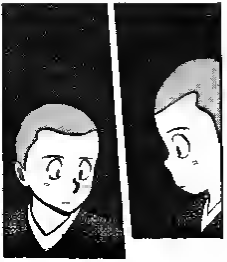
ZEN MASTER, WE FINISHED FOR TODAY.
HMM
...
...
DID YOU FIND SOME-THING?
CHINMI, YOU PRACTICED WITH HIM ALL DAY LONG.
LET'S GO, CHINMI.
YES
...
IT DOESN'T MATTER. TOMORROW TOO, DO YOUR BEST, BOTH OF YOU.
COUGH COUGH
I'M GOING TO BED.


すやすや
ぐらり！

SHI-FUAN ?
HUH?

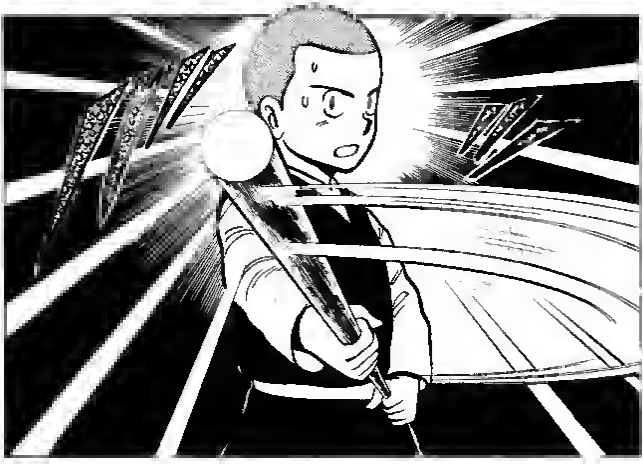
WHERE CAN HE BE GOING, SO LATE?
HM ...
WILL I FINALLY FIND OUT THE SECRET OF HIS STRENGTH ?


HOW FAR
IS HE GOING?



I'LL GET CLOSER.

WHAT IS HE UP TO?



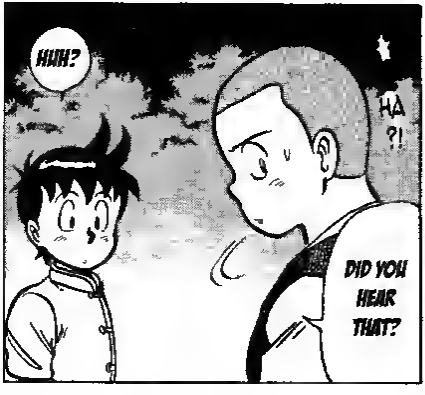
IT'S ME SHI-FUAN! IT'S ME!
WHO'S THERE? SHOW YOURSELF!
DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!
HUH? CHINMI?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
I'M LOOKING FOR MEDICINAL HERBS.
I THOUGHT IT WAS SOME ANIMAL HUNTING ME.
SORRY, SORRY.

MEDI-CINAL HERBS ?
BUT I DIDN'T FIND ANY. I'M GOING BACK NOW.

AH TOO BAD. AND I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DISCOVER YOUR SECRET.

SPAT

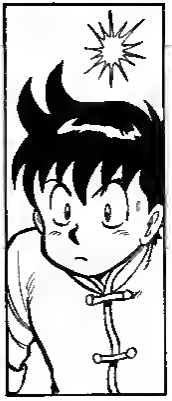
MY SECRET? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NOTHING. NEVER MIND.


HUH?
HA ?!
DID YOU HEAR THAT?

HEY! WHO'S THERE? DON'T STAY HIDDEN, SHOW YOURSELVES!

SOMEONE ELSE FOLLOWED YOU?
HMM ...

YOU'RE RIGHT.
CHINMI, I DON'T THINK IT'S SOMEONE.

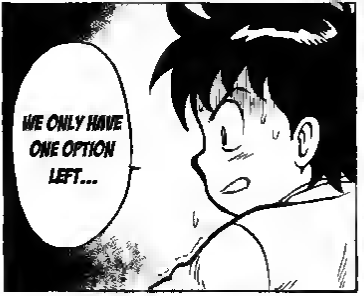


LET'S RETURN TO THE TEMPLE!
ANYWAY, WE'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!
BE CAREFUL! DO NOT FALL!
STATATAP
PUP
IT'S RIGHT BEHIND US!
CHINMI, AHEAD!

GRRR

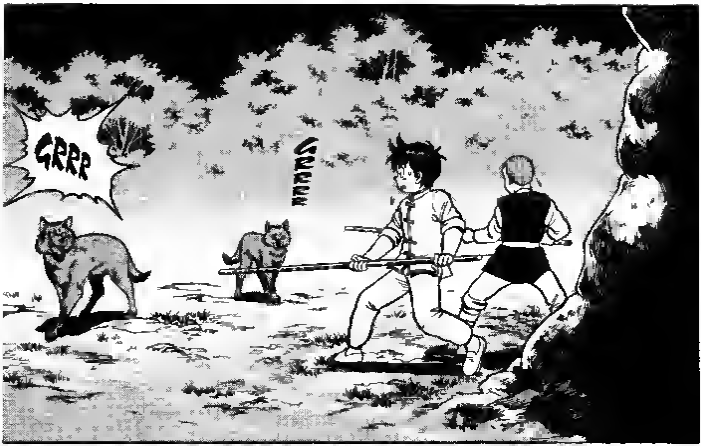
W...
WOLVES!!

THEY CAME DOWN HERE LOOKING FOR FOOD!
THEY'RE COMING FROM BEHIND TOO! WE'RE SURROUNDED!
FZAT
WE'RE STUCK!
LET'S SET OUR BACKS TO THE ROCK, TO PREVENT THEM FROM ATTACKING US FROM THE REAR.
GRRR
WOUU


WE ONLY HAVE ONE OPTION LEFT...

AWOOO

FIGHT TO THE END!
EAT OR BE EATEN!


GRRR
GRRRR

FUT
GRRR
IT'S ATTACK-ING!

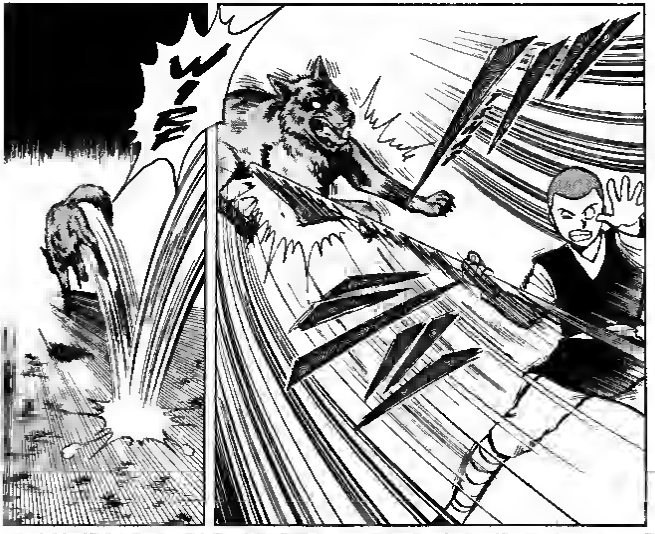
GRRR
TAKE THAT!
WIRP
IT'S STILL MOVING!
!!
WOOF GRR ...
STAF

GROO !!
SPATAM
WURF
THUM

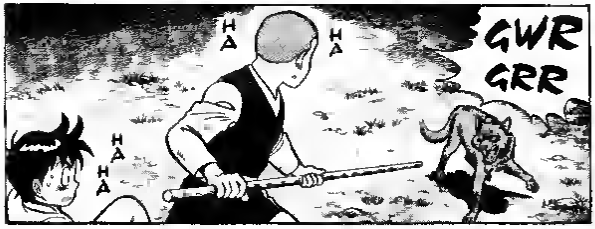
URF
WOF
GRUT
GRRR...
HE
WHAT ABOUT NOW?
MY ATTACKS... AREN'T DOING ANYTHING TO IT!
VROOM

GRRR
ROAR
HUU
WAA
!!
WIRE
SHRIT
SPATAM
JUGG

BEHIND YOU, SHI-FUAN!
I GOT ONE OF THEM! CHINMI! HANG IN THERE!!


WIPE

WHAT A MONSTER... DESPITE BEEING HIT, IT STILL LOOKS SO FEROCIOUS!
PAT'S


HA
HA
HA
HA
GWR
GRR

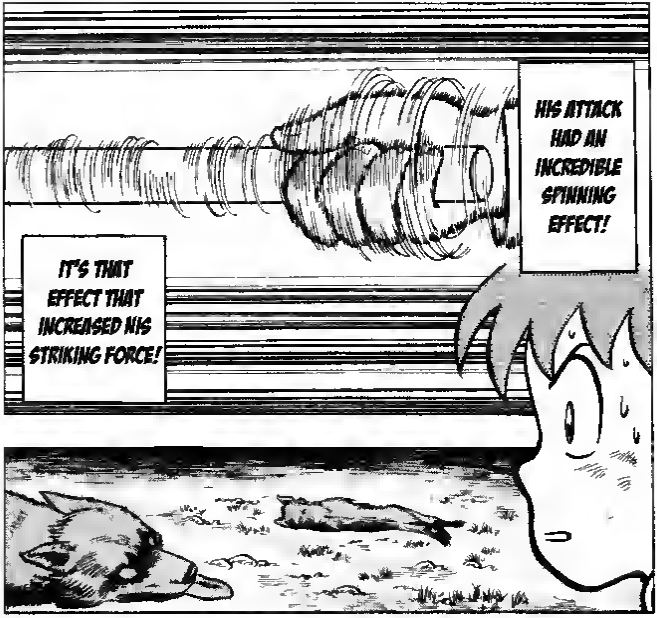
STAY BEHIND ME, CHINMI.
SHI-FUAN, WE'RE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFEAT IT!

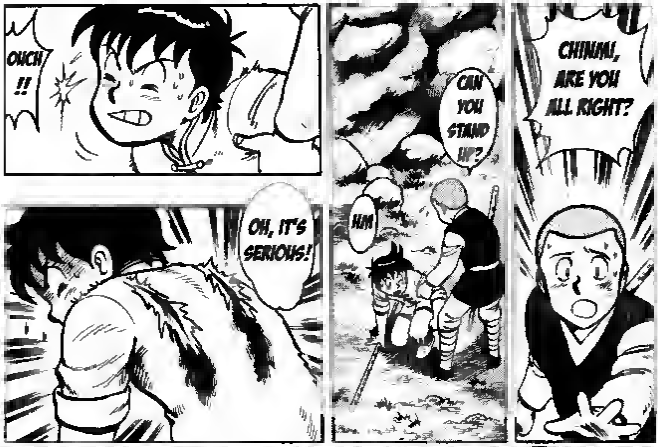
HA HA

HA HA
GRRR
HAA RYAA AAH !!
FWAPPISH

SI

WOOHRF
WHAT AN AMAZING STRIKE!! HE KNOCKED IT DOWN IN ONE HIT!!!
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA


HIS ATTACK HAD AN INCREDIBLE SPINNING EFFECT!
IT'S THAT EFFECT THAT INCREASED HIS STRIKING FORCE!


OUCH!!
CAN YOU STAND UP?
HM
OH, IT'S SERIOUS!
CHIHAI, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

CRASH
LET'S HURRY, YOU NEED TO BE TREATED.
LEAN ON MY SHOULDER.
THANKS, SHI-FUAN.
OWCH...
GREEL
TH... THERE'S ONE MORE?
SHSH

GRRR!!
!!

GRRRL
IT'S GIGANTIC!!
AND DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS!
SHI-FUAN ...

HA
HA
WOOR
WORF
HA
HA
HA
GRRL

GRR
RO
ARR

HEEYAAR!!
GRRR

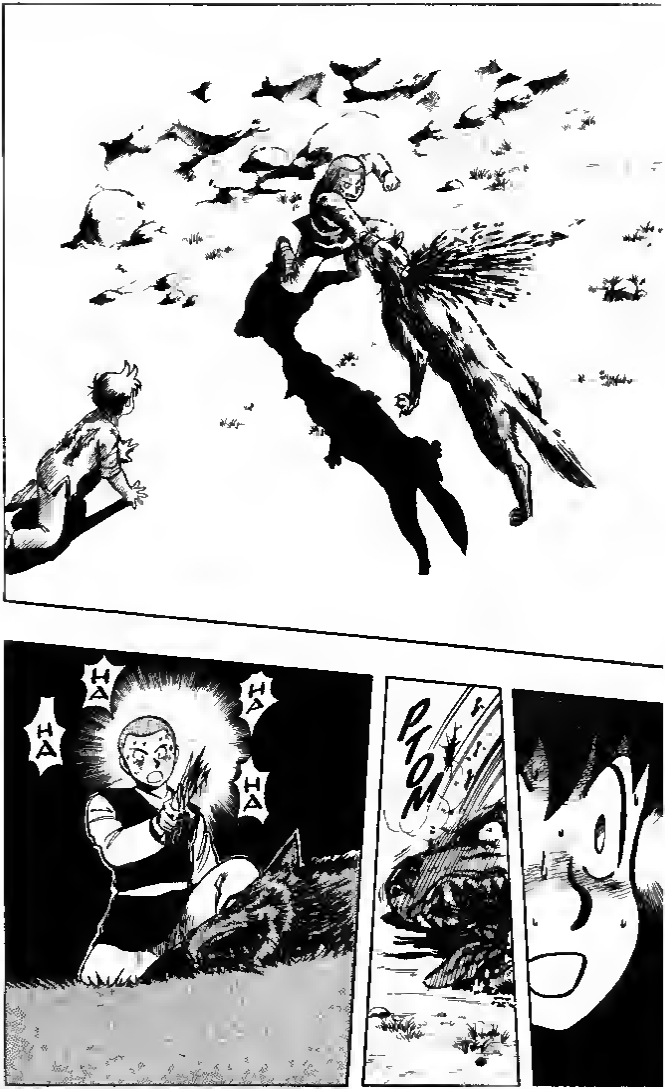
GRLL
ROARL
SHI-FUAN'S
SPECIAL ATTACK
DIDN'T WORK!

K
RAC
GRRRR
SHRAK
MY
...
HA
MY
STAFF
!!
HA
HA
HA
HA

HA
HA
HA
HA
SHI-
FUMI
...
GRRRL
KLANG
HE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO BEAT IT!

GRRR!
ウォーン!!
STAF

EPIC

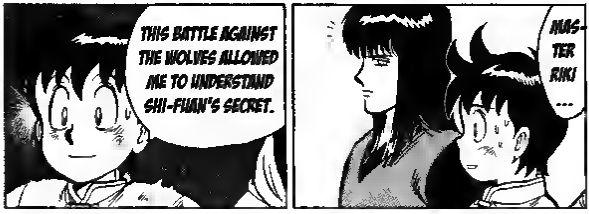

HA
HA
HA
HA
PTOM

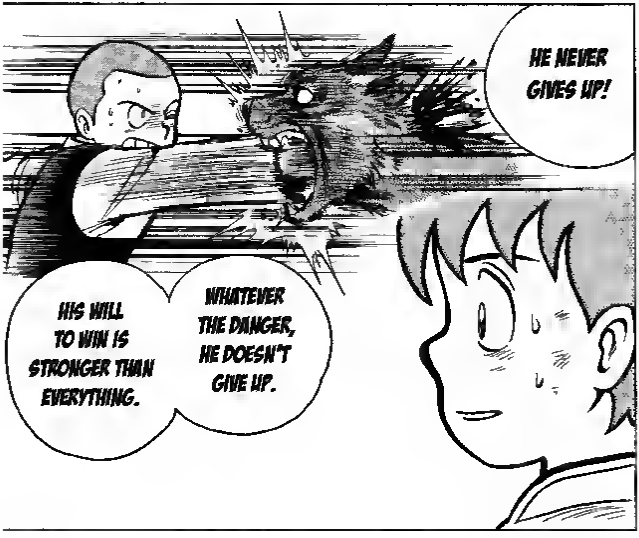
IT WAS SO POWERFUL!
THIS BOY IS REALLY AMAZING!
HE... HE GOT IT!!
SHI-FUAN!
SPATAK
FALL
SHI-FUAN!
CHINMI!
SHI-FUAN!

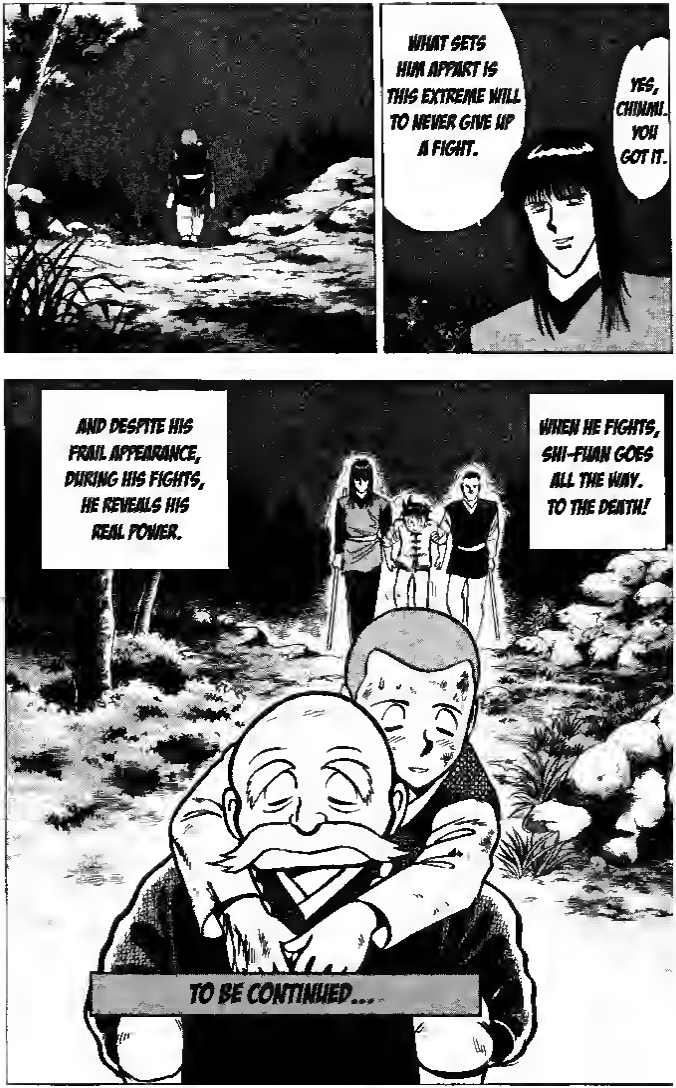
YES... BUT SHI-FUAN...
ARE YOU TWO ALL RIGHT?
YOUR WOUND ISN'T TOO SERIOUS.
HANG IN THERE!
SHI-FUAN, MY BOY!!

I... I FOUGHT LIKE YOU TAUGHT ME, MASTER...
I KEPT GOING UNTIL THE END...
MASTER GOSHYU...
OOH, YOU CAME AROUND.
YOU DID VERY WELL, MY BOY.
GOOD, GOOD.
FORTUNATELY YOU ARE BOTH UNHARMED.
SOMEONE HEARD THE WOLVES HOWLING. HE CAME TO SEE, THEN RAN TO WARN US.
CAN YOU WALK, CHINMI?
YES.

HE WAS LOOKING FOR MEDICINAL HERBS
BUT WHAT WHERE YOU DOING ON THE MOUNTAIN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
...
FOR ME...
SHI-FUAN !
SHH... DO NOT TALK.
MAS-TER...
I WILL CARRY HIM MYSELF.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
LET'S CARRY HIM.
WE MUST QUICKLY TREAT HIM.


THIS BATTLE AGAINST THE WOLVES ALLOWED ME TO UNDERSTAND SHI-FUAN'S SECRET.
MAS-TER RIKI ...


HE NEVER GIVES UP!
WHATEVER THE DANGER, HE DOESN'T GIVE UP.
HIS WILL TO WIN IS STRONGER THAN EVERYTHING.


WHAT SETS HIM APART IS THIS EXTREME WILL TO NEVER GIVE UP A FIGHT.
YES, CHIUMI. YOU GOT IT.
AND DESPITE HIS FRAIL APPEARANCE, DURING HIS FIGHTS, HE REVEALS HIS REAL POWER.
WHEN HE FIGHTS, SHI-FUAN GOES ALL THE WAY. TO THE DEATH!
TO BE CONTINUED...